

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add new claims 20-31.

1-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A method of replacing a trash bag that is supported by a liner in a trash can assembly, comprising:

- a. providing a trash can assembly having:
  - a shell having a top end and a bottom end;
  - a liner defining a container body having a bottom and an enclosing side wall, the liner fitted inside the shell;
  - a lid fitted over the top end of the shell; and
  - a support block provided adjacent the bottom end of the shell;
- b. fitting a trash bag inside the liner;
- c. positioning the liner inside the shell with the support block located side-by-side with the side wall of the container body;
- d. raising the liner with respect to the interior of the shell; and
- e. positioning the liner with the support block located below, and contacting, the bottom of the container body.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further including:

- e. providing an annular wall at the top end of the shell, the annular wall having a groove;
- f. gripping an upper lip of the container body via the groove to raise the liner; and
- g. supporting the liner on the support block in a raised position at an angle with respect to the shell when removing the trash bag.

20. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:  
a shell having a top end and a bottom end;  
a rigid liner defining a container body having a bottom and an enclosing side wall,  
the liner fitted inside the shell;  
a lid fitted over the top end of the shell; and  
a support block provided adjacent the bottom end of the shell;  
wherein the liner is adapted to be positioned in a first position with the support  
block located side-by-side with the side wall of the container body, and is adapted to be  
positioned in a second raised position with the bottom of the container body seated on top  
of the support block.

21. (New) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the enclosing side wall has an upper  
lip, and wherein the assembly further includes an annular wall provided at the top end of  
the shell, the annular wall having a groove which exposes a portion of the upper lip.

22. (New) The assembly of claim 20, further including a base provided at the  
bottom end of the shell, with the support block positioned on the base, and with the  
bottom of the container body seated on the base when in the first position.

23. (New) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the base defines a skirt surrounding  
the bottom end of the shell.

24. (New) The assembly of claim 20, further including a foot pedal positioned  
adjacent the bottom end of the shell.

25. (New) The assembly of claim 24, further including a link assembly coupling the  
foot pedal and the lid.

26. (New) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the entire support block is positioned  
below the bottom of the container body in the second raised position.

27. (New) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the container body is at a first  
vertical level in the first position, and is at a second vertical level in the second raised  
position, with the second vertical level being higher than the first vertical level.

28. (New) The assembly of claim 20, further including a base provided at the bottom end of the shell, the base having a height, and wherein the support block has a height which is greater than the height of the base.

29. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having a top end and a bottom end;

a rigid liner defining a container body having a bottom and an enclosing side wall, the liner fitted inside the shell;

a lid fitted over the top end of the shell; and

a support block provided adjacent the bottom end of the shell;

wherein the liner is adapted to be positioned in a first position where the container body is entirely positioned inside the shell with the support block located side-by-side with the side wall of the container body, and is adapted to be positioned in a second raised position with the bottom of the liner positioned above the support block and part of the container body maintained above the top end of the shell.

30. (New) The assembly of claim 29, further including a base provided at the bottom end of the shell, the base having a height, and wherein the support block has a height which is greater than the height of the base.

31. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein step (e) further includes:

maintaining the liner at a vertical level where part of the liner extends above the top end of the shell.